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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. INTELLOFAX 18

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 22 May 1951

SUBJECT Combined Soviet and Satellite Maneuvers in Bulgaria

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

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1. combined Soviet-Satellite maneuvers

a. The maneuvers were to be held during May in Bulgaria near the Yugoslav border under the command of a Soviet general and were to include units from all satellite countries. The USSR had planned these maneuvers for some time but had postponed them. The maneuvers were intended as a counter balance to the rearmament activities of the Atlantic Pact Nations.

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b. Marshal Sviridov, occupation commander in Austria and Hungary, was slated to be in command. Senior Soviet officers were to be in command of units from each satellite country. Certain weapons were to be tested and all troops would wear the same type uniform.

c. The Cominform press in Budapest, Bucharest and Sofia has mentioned the maneuvers and stated that defense measures were necessary against the Titoist danger.

d. A Soviet concentration is reported at Bekescsaba in northeast Hungary where six Soviet divisions have allegedly arrived from the Urals as replacements for Soviet units considered unreliable. Four more divisions are reported at the border town of Zahony and an additional troop concentration is reported at Kecskemet in central Hungary. In western Hungary there are reportedly three bases for the V-type long range rockets guided by radar.

2. 50X1-HUM

from 15 to 20 April an unknown number

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of Soviet tanks plus crews was transferred by rail from Ratisburg (sic)* Poland to Paruditcheck (sic)* Czechoslovakia and it was possible they might have been intended for Hungary .

3. 50X1-HUM

the Bulgarian Army might stage maneuvers and the satellite countries would simply send staff representatives.

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the USSR would have difficulty explaining such maneuvers under present world conditions unless they decided that the time had come for attack.

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Comment: Ratisburg may possibly be Ratibor and Paruditcheck may be Pardubice.

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